



Russell R. McMurtry, P.E., Commissioner
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree NW
Atlanta, GA 30308
(404) 631-1990 Main Office

June 18, 2019; June 20, 2019; June 25, 2019; June 27, 2019

Thank you for attending the Public Information Open House for the proposed Interstate 285 Eastside Express Lanes project to construct express lanes on an approximately 10.1-mile section of Interstate 285 (I-285) from just south of State Route (SR) 260/Glenwood Road to just north of the Henderson Road/I-285 overpass in DeKalb County, PI Number 0013914.

Our goal is two-fold: 1) to provide you with information on the proposed project and 2) to provide an opportunity for you to give us your comments on the proposed project. In this handout package, you will find a description of the project, a location map, and a comment card.

As you enter the room, please take a look at the project display. Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) representatives, wearing nametags, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. There will be no formal presentation.

We hope you will take the opportunity to tell the GDOT what you think. Listed below are several ways to comment on the project. Your comments are important to us and, should you provide comments by one of the methods noted below, we will respond to you in writing usually within 30 days of the close of the comment period. All comments will become part of the project's official record.

While you are attending the open house, you can provide your comments today by filling out the comment card provided with this handout and dropping it in the comment box, or you may choose to provide your verbal comments to the court reporter who will transcribe your comments.

You can also provide your comments by **Monday, July 15, 2019** by using any of the following methods:

- Project displays are available online at: <http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/GEL/I285Eastside>
- Comments can be made online at www.dot.ga.gov/PS/Public/PublicOutreach.
 1. From the menu, select the county in which the proposed project is located and click Go;
 2. Then select *I-285 Eastside Express Lanes*;
 3. Lastly, click *Comment* and follow the instructions to leave your comments.
- Mail in your comment card to Mr. Eric Duff, Georgia Department of Transportation, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30308.

The project displays and plans will be available for review until July 15, 2019 at the website noted above. Hardcopies will also be available at the GDOT District 7 Office at 5025 New Peachtree Rd, Chamblee, GA 30341; City of Tucker City Hall at 4119 Adrian St, Tucker, GA 30084; and City of Clarkston City Hall at 1055 Rowland St, Clarkston, GA 30021. Following the public comment period, a copy of all comments received will be available by request at the Atlanta address listed above.

Again, thank you for attending this open house. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project manager, Tim Matthews, or the environmental analyst, David Borchardt, at eastsideexpresslanes@dot.ga.gov or (678) 247-2685.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Duff" followed by a circled letter "B".

Eric Duff
State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation

Why We Are Here: There is a need for the proposed I-285 Eastside Express Lanes (EL) project to provide reliable travel times for drivers and transit users, improve connections between regional destinations through priced, express lanes that integrate with the Georgia Express Lanes, and to accelerate project delivery in compliance with the Transportation Funding Act (TFA) of 2015 legislative mandate.

The I-285 Eastside EL project is one of 11 initial Major Mobility Investment Program, or MMIP, projects advancing across the state in an effort to yield a significant reduction in congestion along key freight and passenger corridors. The projects would create additional capacity, improve the movement of freight, provide operational improvements and efficiencies, enhance safety, and decrease travel times.

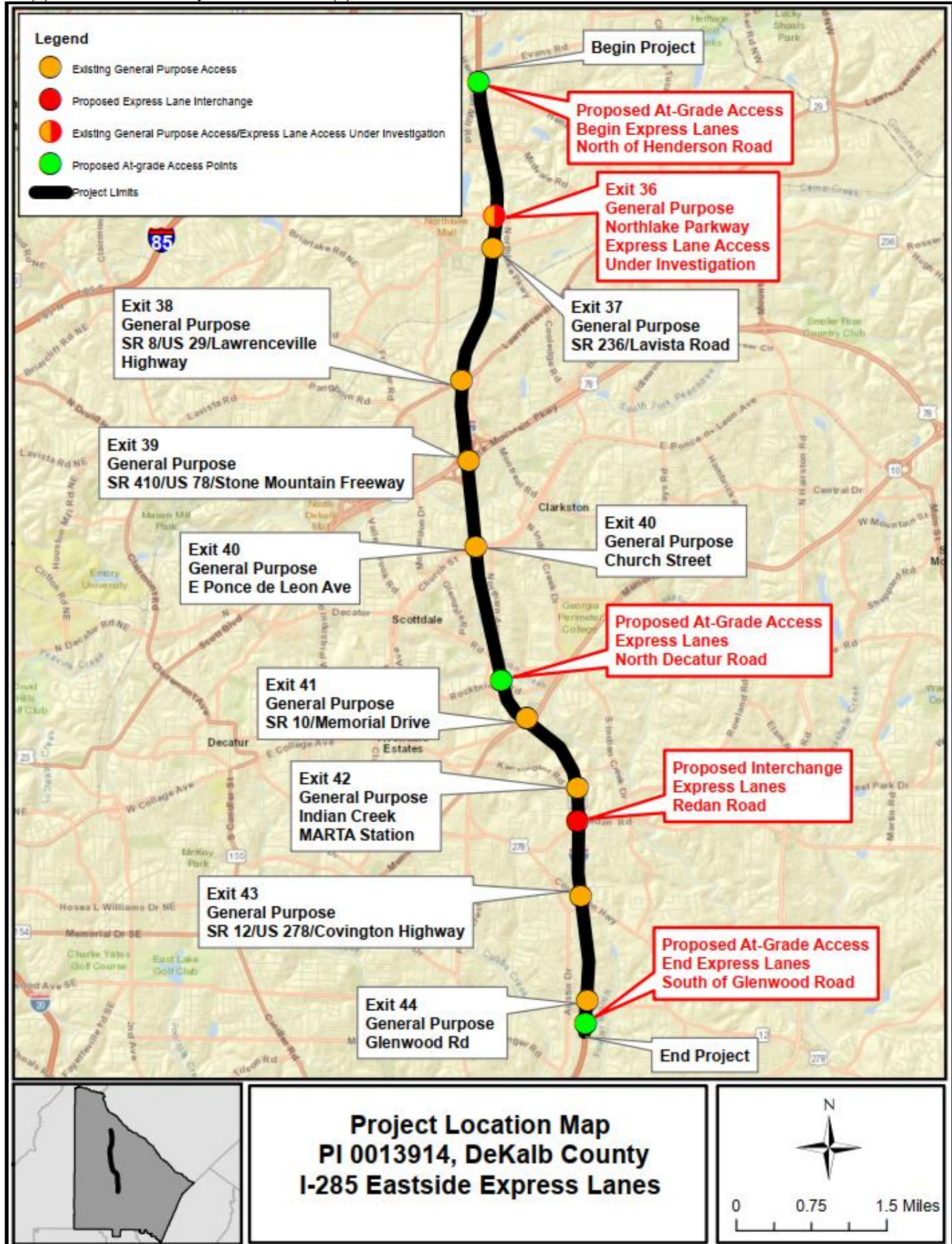
For more information about the MMIP, visit www.dot.ga.gov/mmip.

Project Description: The proposed project would construct approximately 10.1 miles of new buffer-separated express lanes along I-285 from just south of SR 260/Glenwood Road to just north of the Henderson Road/I-285 overpass. Improvements include construction of the new express lanes, three (3) new structures overpassing the US-78/Stone Mountain Freeway at I-285 Interchange, minor ramp modifications at service interchanges, and reconstruction of several overpass structures. The project location is shown on the following page.

The project proposes to add one (1) priced EL in each direction along I-285. The existing inside general purpose (GP) lane would be converted to an 11-foot EL which would be separated from the GP lanes by a 2-foot striped buffer. To maintain the existing number of GP lanes, the existing outside shoulder would be converted to a GP lane and a new 14-foot outside shoulder would be constructed. The proposed typical section in each direction would consist of 6.75-foot inside shoulder; one (1), 11-foot EL; a 2-foot striped buffer; one (1), 11-foot GP lane; three (3), 12-foot GP lanes; and the 14-foot outside shoulder, comprised of the 12-foot paved and 2-foot grassed outside shoulder. The preferred minimum right-of-way width to accommodate this typical section is 208 feet.

The proposed express lanes would be variably priced to attain reliable trip times and would be free of charge to transit providers.

More about the proposed project can be found on the project website: <http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/GEL/I285Eastside>.



Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name _____

Address _____

Open House Attended? (check your response)

☐ **June 18, 2019** ☐ **June 20, 2019** ☐ **June 25, 2019** ☐ **June 27, 2019**

Do you support the project? (check your response)

☐ **For** ☐ **Against** ☐ **Conditional** ☐ **Uncommitted**

At the request of the City of Tucker, Northlake-Tucker CID, and DeKalb County, the feasibility of adding an access point at Northlake Parkway is under investigation by GDOT. The addition of an access point at Northlake Parkway would require the removal of the existing general purpose exit and entrance ramps at Northlake Parkway. Please provide any information that GDOT should consider while studying the feasibility of Northlake Parkway as an access point. _____

General Comments _____

How did you hear about this Open House? (check) ☐ **Newspaper** ☐ **Signs** ☐ **GDOT Website** ☐ **Radio**

☐ **Word of Mouth** ☐ **Social Media** ☐ **Other** _____

Was the location of the Open House convenient for you to attend? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community. _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you. _____

Were your questions answered by GDOT personnel? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

Mail to:

Mr. Eric Duff, State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Comments due by July 15, 2019